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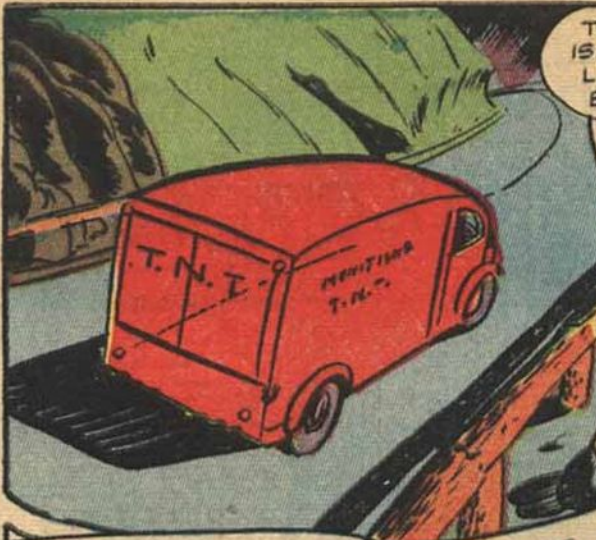
STEEL STERLING

THIS STORY BEGAN TEN YEARS AGO... WHEN HITLER TOOK THE REINS OF THE REICH INTO HIS BLOODY HANDS! IT WILL END WHEN THOSE HANDS ARE COLD IN DEFEAT—OR DEATH!

THIS TALE IS MERELY AN EPISODE IN THE BOOK OF THE DOOM OF NAZISM! AN IMPORTANT EPISODE! PERHAPS EVEN A VITAL ONE! BUT STILL ONLY AN EPISODE!



NOVICK



TRUCKING MUNITIONS IS ONE JOB I DON'T LIKE! THERE OUGHTA BE A LAW AGAINST IT!

YEAH! WELL THESE EMERGENCY RUSH ORDERS ARE UNUSUAL!



M'GOSH! I'M GLAD I WAS WATCHING THE ROAD! WE MIGHT'VE ALL BEEN BLOWN UP!



WHAT HAPPENED FELLA? CAN WE HELP YOU?

HIT A SOFT SHOULDER AN' SPUN AROUND! IF YOU COULD HELP ME GET--



IT NEFFER FAILS! DER AMERICANS HAVE SUCH A COOPERATIVE SPIRIT! IT IS SO EASY TO TRAP THEM!



DOT VAS A GOOT JOB! NOW HURRY UND UNLOAD DER MUNITIONS FROM DER TRUCK TO OURS!

NO WONDER YOU'RE CALLED HITLER'S ACE AGENT! YOU CERTAINLY GET THE RIGHT DOPE ON THESE JOBS!



DON'T WASTE ANY TIME! DER ELEMENT OF RISK ISS EFFER PRESENT!

THE NAZI LEADER FAILS TO SEE THAT HE DROPPED A PAPER FROM HIS POCKET WHEN HE PULLED OUT HIS CIGARETTES----



MEANWHILE AT F. B. I. HEADQUARTERS--

THINGS HAVE BEEN A LITTLE TOO QUIET AROUND HERE! I'M AFRAID SOMETHING BIG IS ABOUT TO BREAK!



WHAT! AMUNITIONS TRUCK HELD UP! DRIVER AND ASSISTANT KILLED! LOAD OF DEPTH CHARGES STOLEN! I'LL SEND A MAN OUT AT ONCE!



THIS LOOKS LIKE A WELL PLANNED PLOT! THE ORDER FOR THE DEPTH CHARGES WAS A FAKE! SEE WHAT YOU CAN FIND OUT, STEEL! THE TRUCK'S ON THE RIVER HIGHWAY!



AT THE RIVER HIGHWAY!

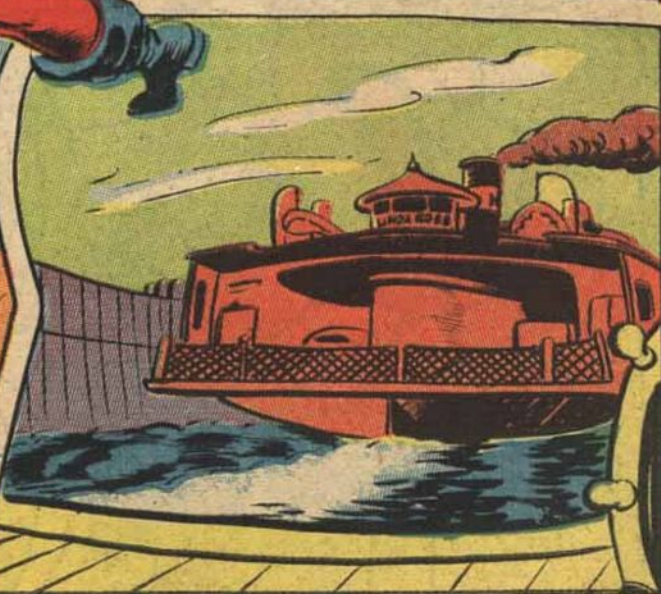
HI, CLANCY, DID YOU FIND ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE A CLUE?

NOT A DARN THING, STEEL! NOTHING BUT A CIGARETTE BUTT AND A FERRY TIMETABLE!



HEY THIS MAY MEAN SOMETHING! THE 11:45 HAS BEEN CIRCLED! IT'S 11:40 NOW! IF WE'RE TO CATCH IT WE'D BETTER GET GOING!

Y'MEAN THAT'S A CLUE! GOSH! O.K. LET'S GO!



A BOARD THE 11:45 FERRY IS THE TRUCK THAT BLOCKED THE ROAD---



GO ON GET IN THAT CABIN OR YOU'LL BE IN A COFFIN!

DOT'S RIGHT! GET INSIDE QUICK AND NO NOISE!



UNLOAD DER DEPTH CHARGES UND WHEN I SIGNAL BY WHISTLE FROM DER PILOT HOUSE THRO THEM OVERBOARD!

STAY AT DER WHEEL UND STEER UP TO DER UNDER RIVER TUNNEL, UND ANY TRICKS UND YOU WILL BE DEAD!

LOOKS AS IF WE'RE TOO LATE!



WHERE'S THE 11:45 FERRY?

THAT FERRY LEFT FIVE MINUTES AGO!

C'MON! WE'RE GOING TO CATCH UP WITH THE FERRY BEFORE IT LANDS!



F'GOSH SAKES!
DON'T DROP
ME, STEEL!

THERE IT IS -- BUT
IT'S A WAY OFF
COURSE! LOOKS
AS IF MY HUNCH
IS RIGHT!

FUNNY THERE'S
NOT A PASSEN-
GER IN SIGHT!



WELL, WELL! THERE
ARE THE DEPTH CHARGES!
WITH THE BOAT OFF
COURSE! MY GUESS IS
THAT THEY PLAN TO
BLOW UP THE RIVER
TUNNEL!



ACH! HIMMEL!
SOMETHING
ISS WRONG!

HOPE
I'M NOT
INTERRUPTING
ANYTHING
IMPORTANT!



HERE'S A
FISTFUL OF
TNT FOR
YOU!



YOU BOYS CER-
TAINLY DON'T
WEAR VERY
WELL! DON'T
YOU LIKE ROUGH
GAMES?



MY! MY!
WHAT'S THE
RUSH?

I'D LIKE YOU
BOYS TO MEET
EACH OTHER!



LOOKIT
THAT!
WHAT'LL
I DO
WITH
'EM!

LOCK THEM IN
THE BACK OF THE
TRUCK, CLANCY!
I'M GOING UP TO
THE PILOT
HOUSE FOR
A LITTLE
VISIT!



AHH! VONE
MINUTE MORE
WE REACH DER
TUNNEL! VAIT'LL
YOU SEE DER
EXPLOSION
WE MAKE!

GUESS
AGAIN, PAL!
THIS IS
WHERE I
TAKE OVER!

ACH!
VOT
ISS
HAP-
PENING!



OH BOY! NOW'S
MY CHANCE TO
CRACK OPEN THAT
NAZI'S FINE ARYAN
SKULL!



OH!
MIGOSH
I HIT THE
WRONG
GUY!

VOT A BREAK! DER PLAN ISS WRECKED BUT AT LEAST I CAN ESCAPE!



FEW MINUTES LATER----

GEE! YUH ALL RIGHT, STEEL? THE RIVER POLICE TOOK OVER THE NAZIS IN THE TRUCK!



WE FOUND A PAPER ON ONE OF THE PRISONERS THAT MENTIONS A PLOT TO BLOW UP THE NAVY YARD! CAN'T FIGURE HOW THEY PLAN TO DO IT!

IT WOULD HAVE TO BE A BOLD PLAN! THEY'D NEED TONS OF MUNITIONS TO CARRY OUT SUCH A PLOT!

I'VE A FEELING THAT SOMEONE INSIDE THE MUNITIONS PLANT MIGHT BE HELPING THE NAZIS! THINK I'LL CHECK WITH THE OWNERS OF THE PLANT!

OK, STEEL! GOOD LUCK TO YOU!



AT THE ATLAS MUNITIONS PLANT--

CAN EITHER OF YOU GENTLEMEN THINK OF SOMEONE IN YOUR PLANT WHO IS HELPING THE NAZIS!

SOMEONE IN OUR PLANT?

CAN'T THINK OF A SOUL, CAN YOU, JIM? WE'LL TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS FROM NOW ON, THOUGH!

I AGREE WITH MY BROTHER, GEORGE! Y'KNOW A BARGE LOADED WITH FREIGHT CARS OF MUNITIONS IS LEAVING THE PLANT AT TEN, TONIGHT! MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO COME ALONG!

FINE! MEANWHILE I'M LEAVING SER-GEANT CLANCY TO WATCH THE DOCK FOR ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES!



A T F.B.I HEADQUARTER---

HMM-- THIS INFORMATION ON GEORGE AND JIM CARTER, OWNERS OF THE PLANT IS MOST INTERESTING ESPECIALLY THE RECENT ITEM ABOUT JIM!



ELSEWHERE IN THE CITY---

DER PLAN FOR TONIGHT VILL NOT FAIL AS THE TUNNEL PLAN DID! VE MAKE SO BOLD A MOVE THE F.B.I WOULD NEFFER DREAM OF IT! ACH DER PHONE!



VOT! STERLING HAS BEEN YOUR PLANT! YOU WANT TO PROUDT! DON'T BE A FOOL! CAN'T POSTPONE IT! VELL RUN ALL DER RISK! I HAD A TUG UND MY MEN AND VILL PICK UP DER BARGE HALF HOUR EARLIER! DOT! STERLING VILL MISS DER!



VE VILL PAY YOU 50,000 DOLLARS FOR YOUR PART IN DER PLOT! DOT ISS WORTHWHILE ISN'T IT, CARTER?



ALL RIGHT! I'LL DO IT ON ONE CONDITION! I'LL HANDLE MY END OF THE DEAL IF YOU'LL GET RID OF MY BROTHER! HE IS GETTING TOO INQUISITIVE!



DOT'S DOT! IT'S ALL SET! VE PICK UP DER BARGE AT NINE THIRTY! WHEN VE REACH DER NAVY YARD VE CUT IT LOOSE UND DER CURRENT VILL SWEEP IT INTO DER NAVY YARD! I VILL HAVE A TIME BOMB ON THE BARGE TO START THE FIREWORKS!



A T THE MUNITIONS PLANT THAT NIGHT---



I CAME A BIT EARLY BECAUSE I WANT TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR BROTHER JIM! CAN HE AFFORD TO GAMBLE?

GAMBLE? WHY NO! AS A MATTER OF FACT, HIS INCOME IS LOW BECAUSE WE'RE OPERATING ON A NON PROFIT BASIS FOR THE DURATION!



THEN HE MUST BE GETTING MONEY FROM ANOTHER SOURCE! HE LOST OVER TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS RECENTLY! DO YOU THINK HE'D SELL OUT TO THE ENEMY?



IT'S TERRIBLY HARD TO IMAGINE MY BROTHER AS A TRAITOR! BUT I DID FIND MYSTERIOUS PAPERS! WAIT I'LL SHOW THEM TO YOU!



MEANWHILE AT THE DOCK ---

GOSHI WISH STEEL WAS HERE!

THE BARGE HEADS INTO MIDRIVER ---

I'VE JUST HAD WORD FROM MY BROTHER, GEORGE, THAT STEEL ISN'T COMING! THE TUG IS READY TO LEAVE! DO YOU WANT TO COME ALONG?

THIS IS A PREDICAMENT! I GUESS I BETTER GO ALONG! I'M SUPPOSED TO WATCH THE BARGE!

SAY! W-WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE BARGE RAN INTO SOMETHING! I MEAN ISN'T IT DANGEROUS!

OH, NO! THERE'S VERY LITTLE DANGER OF EXPLOSION! THE MUNITIONS ARE WELL PACKED! THE CHIEF DANGER IS FIRE OR AN EXPLOSION THAT WOULD SET THEM OFF!

MEANWHILE AT THE PLANT WHERE STEEL HAS SEEN THE PAPERS GEORGE FOUND ---

THESE PAPERS PROVE YOUR BROTHER IS GUILTY! I GUESS I SHOULD GET OVER TO THE BARGE NOW!

WHY YES IT WILL BE LEAVING IN A FEW MINUTES!

GOOD LORD! IT'S GONE!

HOW STUPID OF ME! JIM INSISTED ON SUPERVISING THE LOADING! I SHOULD HAVE SUSPECTED SOMETHING!

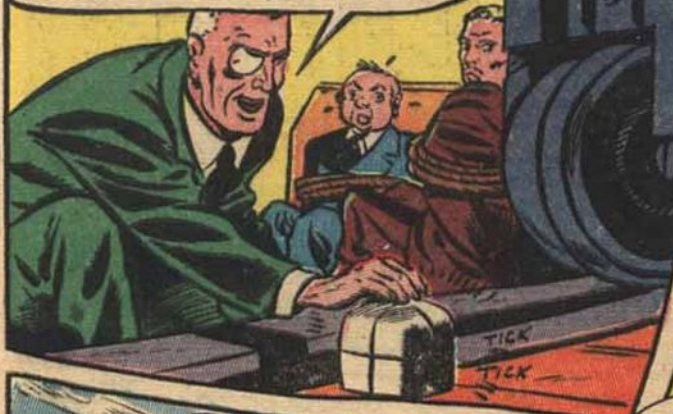
I'VE GOT TO CATCH THAT BARGE! IT'S PROBABLY HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE NAVY YARD! THERE'S ENOUGH MUNITIONS ABOARD TO BLOW IT OFF THE MAP!

WE SHOULD BE PASSING THE NAVY YARD NOW! IT'S RIGHT NEAR THE BRIDGE!

DOT'S RIGHT! UND DOT'S AS FAR AS YOU'RE GOING! UP WITH YOUR HANDS!



SO! I PUT DER TIME BOMB HERE!
VEN IT EXPLODES DER WHOLE
BARGE VILL BLOW UP! BY THE
VAY CARTER, IT ISS YOUR
BROTHER GEORGE WHO HELPED
US! AS PART OF THE BARGAIN I'M
SUPPOSED TO KILL YOU! HE'S
AFRAID YOU VERE SUSPICIOUS!



ALL RIGHT MEN! AS SOON AS
VE REACH DER BRIDGE CAST
OFF DER ROPES SO DER
BARGE VILL DRIFT FREE!

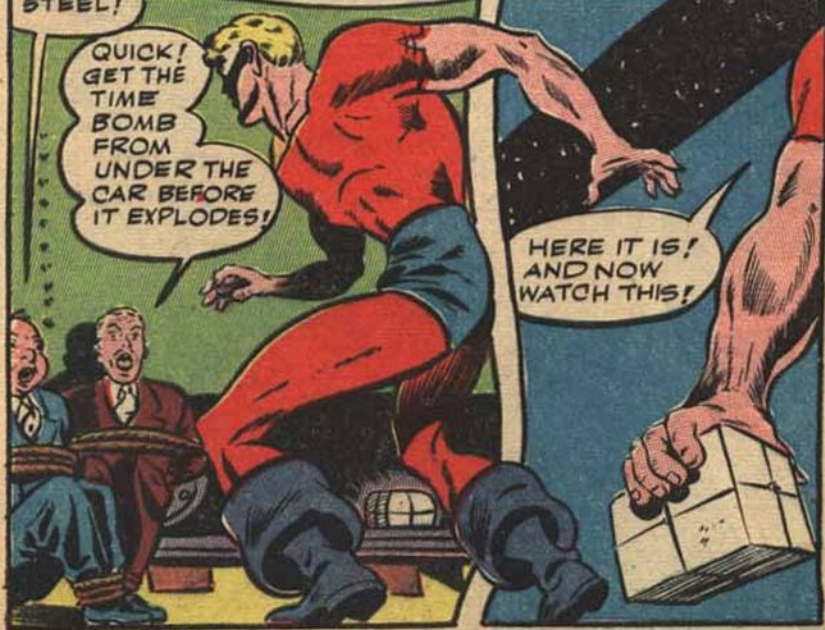


I'M TOO
LATE! THEY'VE
GET THE BARGE
ADrift! I HOPE I
CAN STOP IT
FROM EXPLODING!



STEEL!

QUICK!
GET THE
TIME
BOMB
FROM
UNDER
THE
CAR
BEFORE
IT EXPLODES!



HERE IT IS!
AND NOW
WATCH THIS!

THAT'S A
SURPRISE
PACKAGE
THEY NEVER
EXPECTED!





There was no explosion from the barge as the plan failed! Before I kill myself I must confess!

I alone aided the saboteurs! I planned to frame my brother in case of suspicion, knowing his weakness for gambling I gave him a large sum saying it was an inheritance, to put him under suspicion. I also planted the papers should Sterling later I decided it would be better to have him killed so I could over the business myself. I had a premonition that the plot has been discovered so rather than being caught I took my own life! *George Carter*

THAT NOTE CLEARS UP THE LAST FEW POINTS! YOUR BROTHER SHOULD HAVE BEEN AN ACTOR, HE SURE HAD ME FOOLED!

THANK YOU, STEEL! I NEVER KNEW HE WAS GREEDY FOR MONEY! HE MUST HAVE BEEN INSANE TO HELP THE NAZIS!

WELL, CLANCY, WHAT D'YA SAY WE TAKE A FERRY BOAT RIDE, BEFORE WE GO HOME?

NO, THANKS, PAL! IVE HAD ENOUGH BOAT RIDES TO LAST ME A LIFE-TIME!



WELL, HE TRIED TO MAKE AMENDS BEFORE HE DIED!

Archie

YOU NO FORGET-A
ARCHIE TO
DELIVER DAT. A
FISH FOR ME!
I ALREADY PAY
YOU FOR IT!

DON'T WORRY,
TONY, IT'S AS GOOD
AS *DONE!* THE
ANDREWS SUPER-
XPRESS SERVICE
NEVER FAILS A
CUSTOMER!

KINDA LATE!
I DON'T THINK
IT'D MAKE MUCH
DIFFERENCE IF I
MADE THE DELIVERY
FIRST THING IN
THE MORNING!

COMES
THE
DAWN...

OH!?! DARN
THIS COLD
WEATHER! MY
CAR WON'T
START!

'MORNING,
ARCHIE! SAY,
YOU DON'T BY
ANY CHANCE
THINK YOU'RE
GOING TO *START*
THAT JALOPY
OF YOURS!

WHY
NOT,
DAD??

BOY.. I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU FOR OPTIMISM! WHY THAT JUNK HEAP..

WHAT! W... HE DID START IT!!

WELL, YOU MAY AS WELL TAKE ME DOWN TO THE OFFICE! I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW YOU GET THIS THING TO RUN! WHERE DID YOU GET THE GAS, FOR ONE THING!!

I.. ER.. DRAINED IT OUT OF YOUR CAR, DAD?!

?

HEH, HEH I DON'T KNOW HOW THAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED! I'LL HAVE THE SPARE ON IN A MINUTE!

ARE YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T TAKE THE SPARE OFF MY CAR?

OF COURSE NOT! I WOULDN'T THINK OF DOING THAT! AND BESIDES IT DIDN'T FIT!

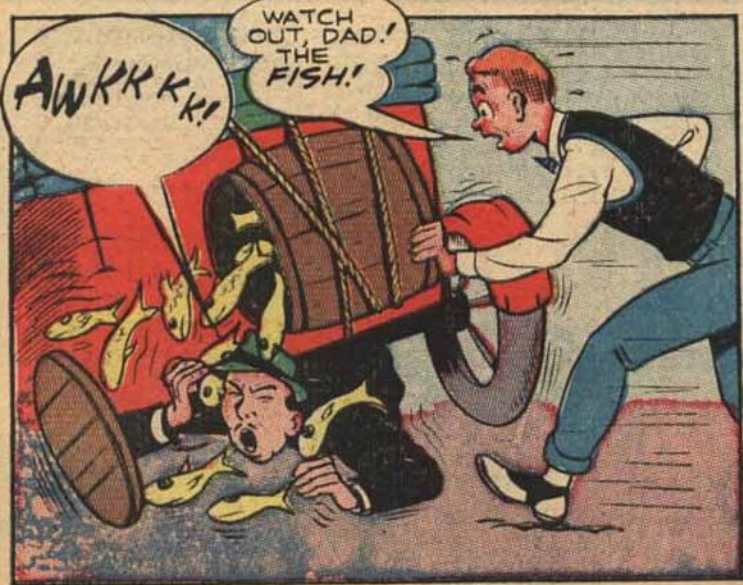
GOOD LORD! YOU DON'T MEAN TO TELL ME YOU EXPECT TO RIDE ON THAT TIRE?

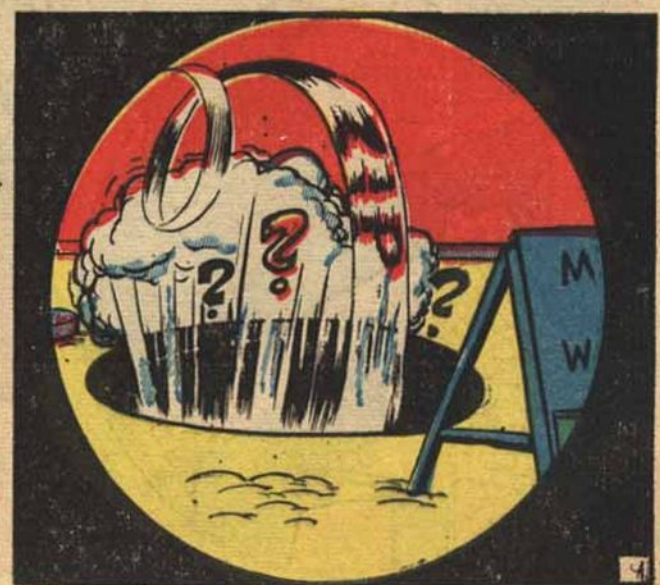
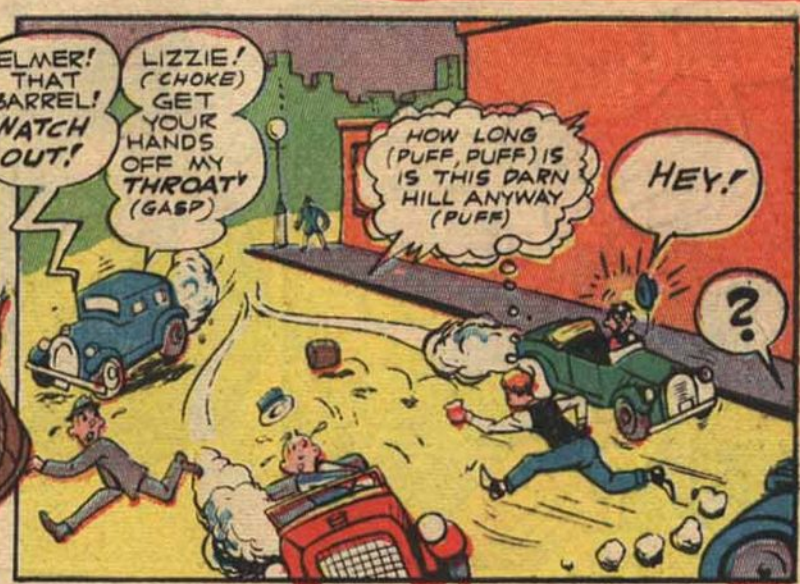
BANG!

SURE!.. IT'S STILL GOT PLENTY OF RUBBER ON IT.. ON THE INSIDE!

WONDER WHY THIS ONE BLEW OUT? MUST BE THAT JUGHEAD, DARN HIM! I TOLD HIM TO WATCH WHERE HE THREW HIS TOOTHPICKS!

STOP MUMBLING, ARCHIE AND HELP ME WITH THIS THING! I'M LATE ENOUGH FOR THE OFFICE, AS IT IS!!







HEY! YOU! ARE YOU THE WISE-GUY WHO THREW THAT FISH BARREL DOWN HERE?

OH, OH! I DON'T THINK HE'S IN ANY MOOD TO LISTEN TO REASON!

I'M TELLIN' YOU FOR THE LAST TIME.. GET THOSE FISH OFF THIS STREET! THEY'RE SMELLIN' UP THE WHOLE TOWN!

BUT OFFICER! MY SON'LL BE HERE ANY MINUTE AND..



THERE HE IS, NOW! WHERE IS THAT BARREL ARCHIE??

I.. B AH..

ARE YOU GONNA GET THOSE FISH AND THAT JUNK-HEAP OUTTA HERE ??



I LOST IT, DAD!

O Wooo..!

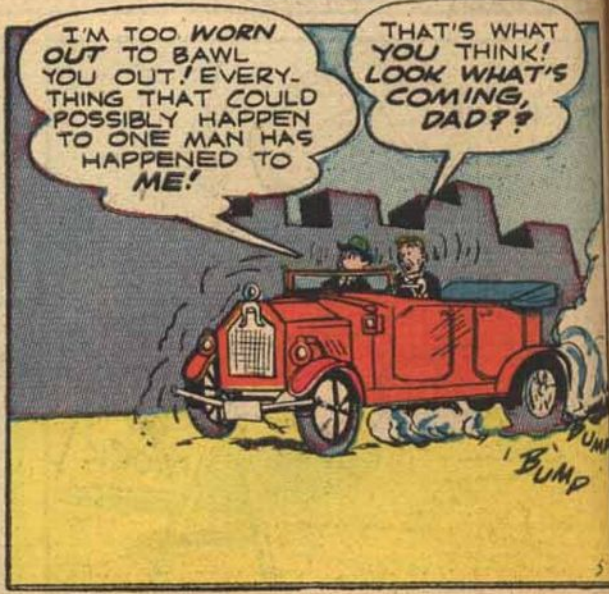


ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, OFFICER! DON'T GET EXCITED! COME ON, ARCHIE! WE'LL THROW THEM INTO THE CAR!



NOW, BEAT IT! AND THE NEXT TIME I SEE THAT REFUGEE FROM A JUNKYARD, I'LL THROW THE BOOK AT YOU!

YES, SIR...



I'M TOO WORN OUT TO BAWL YOU OUT! EVERY-THING THAT COULD POSSIBLY HAPPEN TO ONE MAN HAS HAPPENED TO ME!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! LOOK WHAT'S COMING, DAD??

BUMP



HEY!

CATS!
THEY SMELLED
THE FISH!

MEOW
MEOW
MEOW
MEOW
MEOW



6#3:~?!

SHOO!

THAT'S THE LAST
STRAW! STOP THIS
THING IMMEDIATELY...
AND YOU AND
I ARE GOING TO
HAVE A TALK
TONIGHT, YOUNG
MAN.. ABOUT YOUR
NEXT 6 MONTHS
ALLOWANCE!!

Y..YES,
DAD!



NO SMOKING

SNIFF
SNIFF



WELL! YOU'D
THINK SOME
PEOPLE WOULD
HAVE THE DECENCY
TO TAKE A BATH
ONCE
IN A WHILE!

WHEW
!!



LATER..

ANDREWS!!
HEY, ANDREWS
!!



AAAGGHM!

YOU SHOULD
HAVE SEEN THE
FISH I CAUGHT
LAST WEEK ON MY
VACATION! NO KIDDING!
IT WAS THIS BIG!



??
??
??



WOW!
WOTTA MESS!
THIS WAS
ALL JUGHEAD'S
IDEA IN THE
FIRST PLACE!
I'LL LET HIM
EXPLAIN
TO TONY ABOUT
THE FISH! SEE
YOU IN THE
NEXT JACK POT,
GANG!

PUZZLES

CHESTER THE JESTER HAS STOLEN SOME FRUIT FROM KING COLD'S KITCHEN. FIND WHAT HE STOLE THAT MAKES THE COOK SO ANGRY! SUBSTITUTE A LETTER FOR THE NUMBER YOU GET IN EACH BOX. EXAMPLE 1=A, 2=B, 3=C

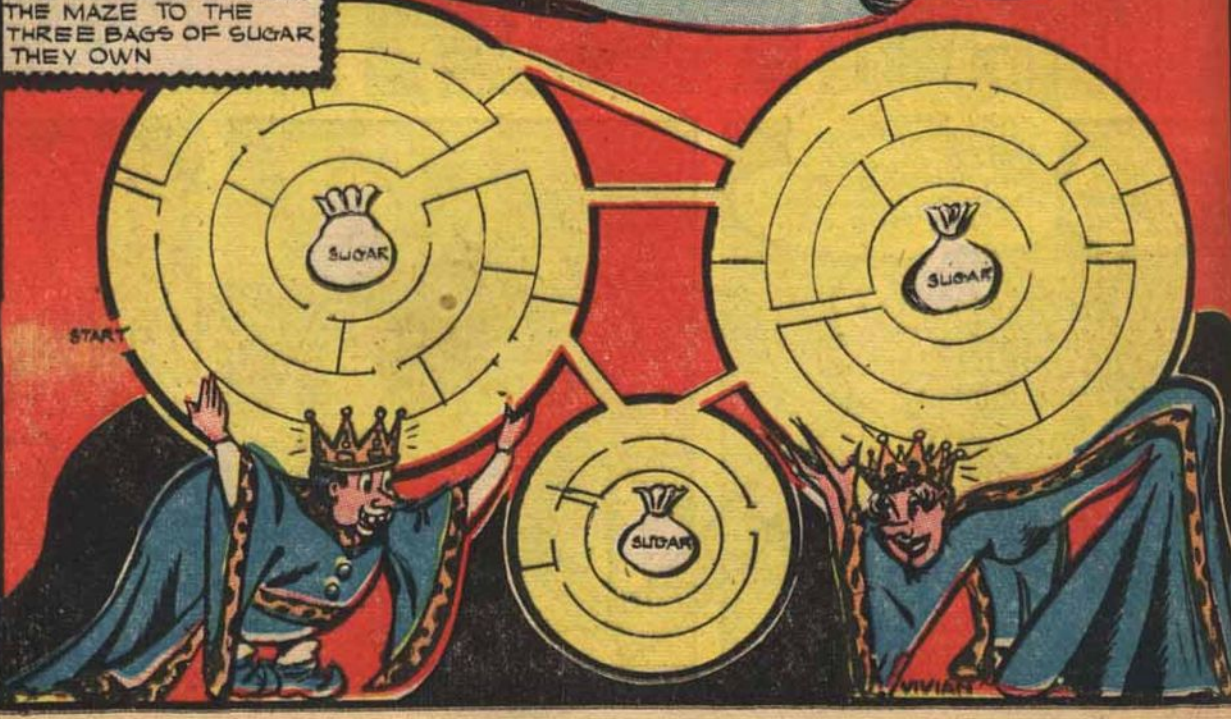


20	9	8	19	5	8
-19	7	8	+7	x1	
■	■	■	■	■	■
5	12	3	9	4	20
+2	+6	-2	+7	+1	+1
■	■	■	■	■	■

ANSWER:
1. APPLES
2. GRAPES



KING COLD AND QUEEN SNEEZE WANT TO SEE IF YOU CAN FIND YOUR WAY THROUGH THE MAZE TO THE THREE BAGS OF SUGAR THEY OWN



THE

BLACK HOOD



A HORRIBLE SECRET LURKED BEHIND THE TWO STIFF BROWN PIECES OF PARCHMENT THAT BARBARA SUTTON FOUND IN A SECOND HAND SHOP!
BARBARA FAINTED WHEN SHE LEARNED WHAT THE PARCHMENT REALLY WAS!... BUT THE **BLACK HOOD** USED IT AS A CLUE TO SOLVE A SERIES OF THE MOST FANTASTIC MURDERS EVER COMMITTED!

MIND STOPPING IN THIS SECOND HAND SHOP A MINUTE, KID? I MAY BE ABLE TO FIND SOMETHING TO WRITE ABOUT FOR THE PAPER!

LOOK, KIP! TWO PIECES OF PARCHMENT WITH SECTIONS OF A MAP ON THEM!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? DREAM UP A BURIED TREASURE STORY?





JUST THE SAME I'M GLAD I BOUGHT IT! MAYBE IT IS A MAP FOR SOMETHING VALUABLE! I'M GOING TO WRITE IT UP IN TOMORROW'S EDITION!

THERE YOU GO WITH THAT IMAGINATION OF YOURS! IT'S PROBABLY THE WORK OF A KID WHO READ TREASURE ISLAND AND MADE IT FOR FUN!



NEXT DAY IN THE WARD OF A CITY HOSPITAL A PATIENT IS READING BAB'S ARTICLE--

WHERE AM I? WHAT AM I DOING HERE? HOW DID THIS GET IN THE PAPER?

HUSH! YOU'RE DISTURBING THE OTHER PATIENTS! I'LL CALL THE DOCTOR!

DR. SHELTON! THAT AMNESIA PATIENT IN WARD B SEEMS TO HAVE RECOVERED HIS MEMORY!

I'LL BE IN RIGHT AWAY!



DOCTOR! I REMEMBER FALLING IN FRONT OF A CAR --AND NOW I FIND MYSELF IN THIS HOSPITAL! HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN HERE?

CALM YOURSELF OR YOU'LL HAVE A RELAPSE!

YOU WERE BROUGHT IN AS A HIT AND RUN VICTIM ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO! YOU REMEMBERED NOTHING OF YOUR PAST--AND YOU'VE NO PAPERS OF IDENTIFICATION!

TWO MONTHS AGO!! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT! I REMEMBER EVERYTHING NOW!



THOSE MAPS MENTIONED IN THAT NEWS STORY! THEY CAN'T BE MINE, AND YET THEY WERE IDENTICAL! I'LL GO TO MY ROOMING HOUSE AND SEE!



MR. RUSSELL FOR LANDS SAKE! I THOUGHT YOU'D SKIPPED OUTTA HERE! YOU HAVE NERVE--

NEVER MIND THAT! WHAT DID YOU DO WITH MY BE-LONGINGS?



YOU OWED ME TWO WEEKS RENT SO I SOLD 'EM TO THE SECOND HAND SHOP ON GREENWICH AVENUE!

YOU SOLD THEM! OH, YOU IDIOT! YOU IM-BECILE!

I'VE GOT TO GET THOSE MAPS! MY MAPS!

HELLO! CAN I HELP YOU?



THERE WAS AN ARTICLE IN THE PAPER ABOUT SOME MAPS YOU HAD HERE! I WANT TO BUY THEM!

SORRY, MISTER! BUT THEY'RE ALREADY SOLD TO THE GIRL THAT WROTE ABOUT 'EM!

BARBARA SUTTON! I'LL FIND OUT WHERE SHE LIVES AND I'LL GET THOSE MAPS YET! NO ONE CAN TAKE THOSE MAPS FROM ME!

WHAT EVENING AT BARBARA'S--

GOSH THAT WAS A GOOD DINNER! HOW ABOUT MY HOPPING OUT FOR SOME ICE CREAM FOR DESSERT?

GOOD IDEA, KIP!



THAT YOU, KIP? YOU CERTAINLY GOT BACK QUICKLY!

YOU'RE BARBARA SUTTON! YOU HAVE SOME MAPS THAT BELONG TO ME! I WANT THEM!

MAPS?-- OH-- ER-- YES JUST A MINUTE!



SO YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD FOOL ME AND PHONE FOR HELP! I'LL SHOW YOU!

GUESS YOU NEED A LESSON IN ETIQUETTE! MEN DON'T PUNCH GALS AROUND HERE!

DON'T INTERFERE OR YOU'LL BE SORRY!



WE'LL SOON SEE WHO'S SORRY!

TOUGH GUY, HUH? WELL THIS BLACK-JACK WILL FIX YOU!

I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE WITHOUT THE MAP SECTIONS IT WON'T MATTER! IF I CAN GET THE OTHER SECTIONS, I CAN USE THE NEWS PAPER REPRODUCTIONS TO COMPLETE IT!



KIP ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? HE WAS AFTER THOSE MAPS! WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE HE WANTED THEM?

OH H H, MY HEAD! WAIT A SECOND 'TIL IT CLEARS AND THEN LET ME SEE THOSE PIECES OF PAROHMENT AGAIN!

Y'KNOW BABS THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THESE! I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO GO DOWN TO THE POLICE LAB AND HAVE THE TECHNICIAN EXAMINE IT!

LET'S GO! MAYBE WE'VE STUMBLED INTO A REAL FORTUNE!



AT THE LABORATORY!

GOOD LORD! THIS IS HUMAN SKIN THAT'S BEEN TANNED! THE MAP IS TATTOOED INTO THE SKIN!

OH H H! TO THINK I HANDLED IT! HUMAN SKIN! OOOOO!

HOW LONG AGO WAS THAT SKIN TANNED, CAN YOU SAY?



IT'S PRETTY FRESH! I'D SAY WITHIN THE YEAR! THE PIECES ARE FROM TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE! A BLOND AND A BRUNETTE! FROM THE SIZE OF THE PORES I'D SAY THEY WERE MEN!

HAVE THERE BEEN ANY MURDERS RECENTLY WHERE A PIECE OF SKIN WAS MISSING?

HEAVENS! YES! I SHOULD HAVE REMEMBERED THAT! THERE WAS A CASE ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO! WAIT AND I'LL GET THE DATA FROM MY FILES! THERE'LL BE PICTURES OF THE BODY AND COMPLETE INFORMATION!

HERE IT IS! WILLIAM SCHROEDER FOUND MURDERED IN MACDOUGAL ALLEY! A PIECE OF FLESH CHOPPED FROM HIS UPPER LEG! HERE'S A PICTURE OF THE CORPSE!



HMM-- EXCEPT FOR SHRINKAGE THE PIECES OF FLESH MATCH ALL RIGHT!

WELL, THANKS A LOT DOC! I'LL BE RUNNING ALONG NOW!

MEANWHILE AT THE SCHROEDER HOME--



WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

HELP! HELP! FRANK CALL THE POLICE!

SHUT UP YOU FOOL!



OUTSIDE THE SCHROEDER HOME---

I HEARD A CRY FOR HELP, BABS! YOU GET A COP! THE BLACK HOOD'S GOING TO DO SOME INVESTIGATING!



YOU--- YOU'VE KILLED MY BROTHER!

YES! AND I'LL KILL YOU TOO-- UNLESS YOU DO AS I SAY! GET A KNIFE AND CUT THE FLESH OFF HIS LEG JUST ABOVE THE KNEE!



THE BLACK HOOD!

HE'S ESCAPING, HOOD---THE DIRTY KILLER!

LATER... I ADMIT, THAT WHEN MY BROTHER WILLIAM WAS MURDERED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, I DIDN'T TELL THE POLICE THE FULL STORY! I WAS AFRAID I'D BE LAUGHED AT! BUT SINCE THAT FIEND MURDERED GEORGE, I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING! IT ALL STARTED A LONG TIME AGO WHEN I AND MY THREE BROTHERS-



THREE BROTHERS! THE POLICE RECORDS SAY YOU HAD TWO!

NO, MY THIRD BROTHER WAS KILLED A LONG TIME AGO IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT! HE WAS CREMATED AND HIS ASHES SENT BACK IN THAT URN BEHIND ME!

ME SAINTED AUNT! IMAGINE THAT--A COFFIN!

AS CHILDREN WE SPENT OUR VACATIONS IN A TOWN CALLED EDEN, IN TENNESSEE! ONE DAY WE WERE EXPLORING IN THE WOODS WHEN WE HEARD A CRY FOR HELP!



FOLLOWING THE CRIES WE CAME UPON HERMIT CAIN HANGING FROM THE EDGE OF A CLIFF!

YOU LADS SAVED MY LIFE! COME TO MY CAVE -- AND I'LL REWARD YOU!

TAKE IT EASY, WE'LL GET YOU UP!

GOSH! THAT'S ALL RIGHT! BUT WE'D SURE LOVE TO SEE YOUR CAVE!



I'M A HERMIT, AND I'VE NO NEED FOR MONEY! I KNOW WHERE THERE'S WEALTH HIDDEN! WEALTH BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS!



I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU BOYS WHERE TO FIND IT -- BUT, NOT UNTIL YOU'RE GROWN MEN.... YOU'LL ALL SHARE IT ALIKE! AND MY SCHEME'LL MAKE SURE OF THAT!



I'M GOING TO TATTOO A SECTION OF THE MAP ON EACH OF YOUR LEGS! DON'T WORRY! IT WON'T HURT!



THE MAPS WON'T BEGIN TO SHOW ON YOUR SKIN FOR A GOOD MANY YEARS WITH THIS CHEMICAL OF MINE, BUT WHEN THEY DO, THEY'LL LEAD YOU TO THE TREASURE!



AS THE YEARS WENT BY AND THE TATTOO MARKS NEVER SHOWED, WE WERE ALL CONVINCED THAT HE WAS JUST A CRAZY OLD HERMIT TELLING US A FAIRY TALE!



Y'MEAN YOU HAVEN'T ANY TATTOO MARKS ON YOU?

NO MORE THAN MY DEAD BROTHER OVER THERE HAS ON HIS LEG!

GOOD LORD! LOOK TATTOO MARKS! APPEARING ON YOUR BROTHER'S LEG!

I GET IT NOW! DEATH CAUSES SOME CHEMICAL REACTION THAT BRINGS OUT THOSE TATTOO MARKS AND SOMEBODY FOUND OUT ABOUT IT! THAT'S WHY HE'S BEEN KILLING YOU ALL OFF!

GREAT HEAVENS! THEN HARRY'S DEATH MUST HAVE BEEN MURDER NOT ACCIDENT!



WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? THAT MADMAN, A PLAN! HOLD THE DOCTOR, WILL BE AFTER ME NEXT!

DON'T WORRY! I HAVE A PLAN! HOLD THE FUNERAL AT ONCE! AND YOU, MCGINTY, SEE THAT FRANK SCHROEDER IS WELL PROTECTED BY YOUR MEN

THE NEXT NIGHT--



YOU SLIPPED AWAY ONCE MISTER--

...BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO IT AGAIN!

AND NOW, LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR FACE!

KEEP AWAY, HOOD, OR I'LL--

--OR YOU'LL TAKE IT ON THE CHIN!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, HOOD!

AT THE CARTER HOME---

HERE'S YOUR MURDERER-- HARRY SCHROEDER!

BUT--BUT WHAT ABOUT THE ASHES AND THE PIECE OF FLESH-- HIS LEG IS ALRIGHT!

I KNOW-- THAT PIECE FROM THE LEG WITH THE MAP ON IT CONVINCED US HE WAS DEAD!-- BUT LOOK HERE'S THE ANSWER!

AN ARTIFICIAL LEG! WHEN HIS LEG WAS SEVERED IN THE ACCIDENT HE DISCOVERED THE SECRET OF HOW TO MAKE THE MAP APPEAR!



YES! YOU FOOL! WHEN MY LEG WAS SEVERED, THE TATTOO MARKS APPEARED! I KNEW THEN, THAT ONE WAY TO BRING OUT THE OTHER MAPS WAS TO KILL YOU ALL!

THE DOCTOR WHO AMPUTATED MY LEG WAS THE FIRST TO NOTICE THE MAP AND HE GOT CURIOUS-- TOO CURIOUS!

"SO I LURED HIM TO A LONELY COUNTRY ROAD AFTER I HAD A WOODEN LEG MADE UP-- AND KILLED HIM!"

"IT WAS HIS ASHES AND A FORGED DEATH CERTIFICATE I MAILED YOU--- PART OF MY PLAN TO MAKE YOU THINK I WAS DEAD!"



"THEN I CAME TO THE CITY-- WAYLAID MY BROTHER WILLIAM! MURDERED HIM-- AND CUT AWAY THE TATTOOED FLESH!"

EVERYTHING WAS PERFECT-- WHEN I GOT HIT BY A TRUCK, AND LOST MY MEMORY! OTHERWISE YOU AND GEORGE WOULD HAVE DIED LONG BEFORE THE HOOD COULD HAVE MEDDLED-- BLAST HIM!

YOU FOOL! ALL YOUR CRIMES WERE FOR NOTHING! THE WHOLE VALLEY WHERE THE TREASURE'S SUPPOSED TO BE HIDDEN IS UNDER HUNDREDS OF FEET OF WATER-- THAT'S WHERE THE T. V. A. DAM WAS BUILT!

HEY, HOOD! I'VE GOT EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL! I HAVE A CLUE THAT'LL SOLVE THIS CASE AND GET THE MURDERER IN LESS THAN TWENTY FOUR HOURS!

BUT, MEGINTY! HOOD'S ALREADY CAUGHT THE MURDERER AND HE'S CONFESSED! IT'S HARRY SCHROEDER, THE BROTHER!

SURE ENOUGH WHEN THE SKIN DRIED UP, THE MAP APPEARED!



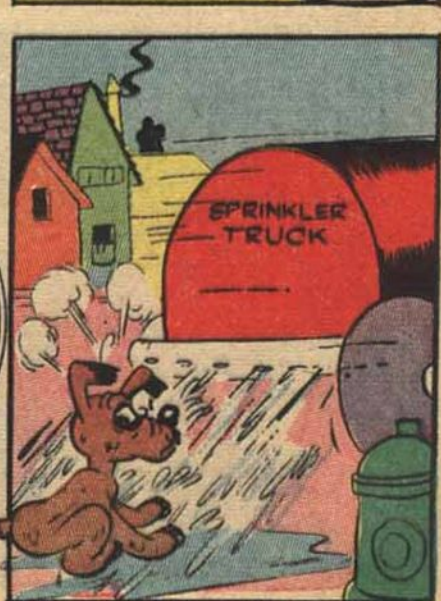
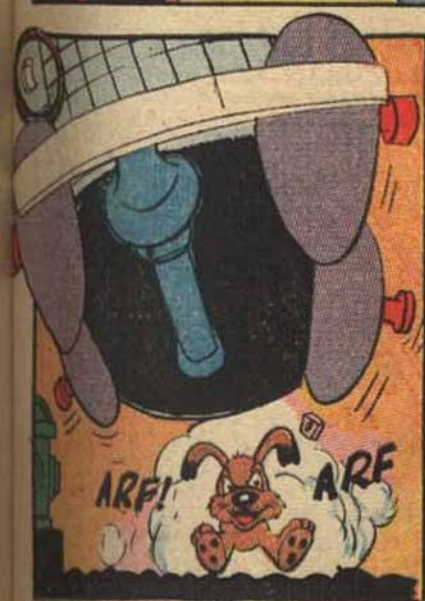
THIS URN, IT'S HUH-- DID YOU SAY HARRY SCHROEDER--- HEH, HEH, I KNOW IT ALL THE TIME!

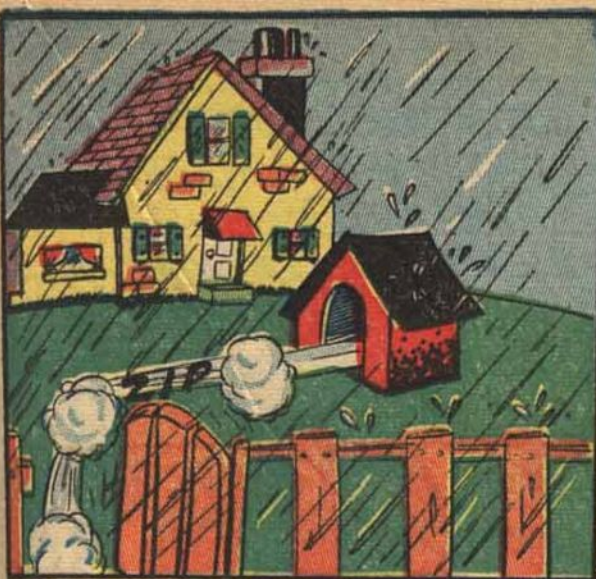
IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A DOG!



by
Joe Edwards

OH BOY! WHAT A
SWELL DAY!
THINK I'LL
GO FOR
A WALK!

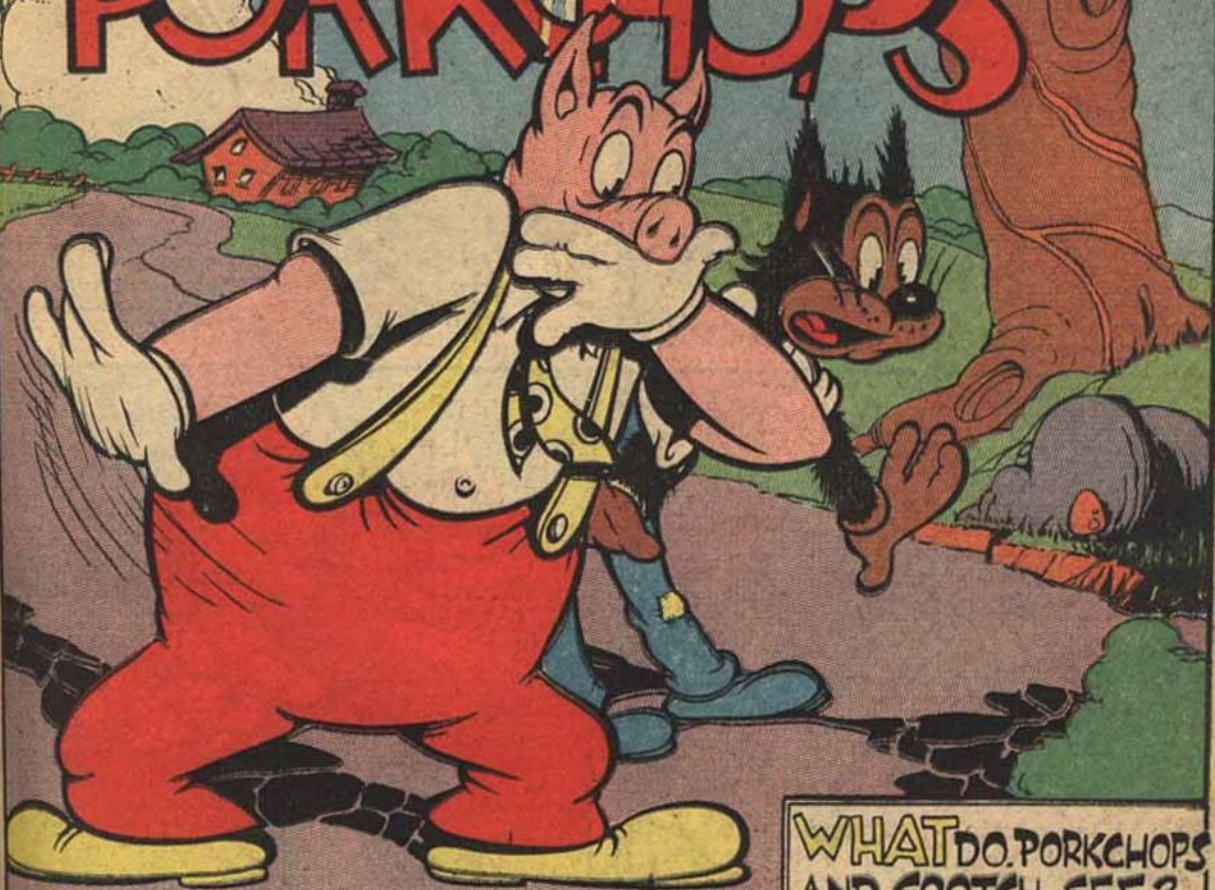




LOOK FOR THIS PICTURE ON YOUR NEWSSTAND!
IT WILL BE ON THE COVER OF THE LATEST SHIELD-WIZARD
SHIELD-WIZARD #10
ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTAND RIGHT NOW BRINGING WITH
IT "THE RETURN OF THE HUN" IN A TALE THAT WILL
LIVE FOREVER IN YOUR MIND !!!



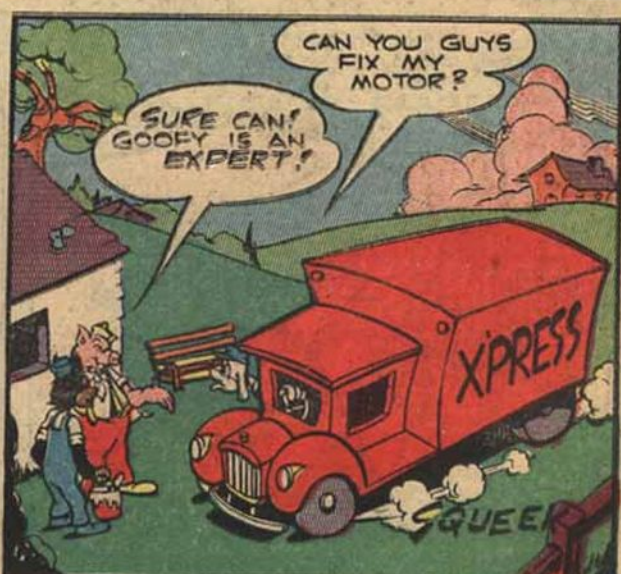
PORKCHOPS



WHAT DO PORKCHOPS
AND GOOTCH SEE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?



WE BETTER GET
SOME WORK
SOON OR WE
DON'T EAT!

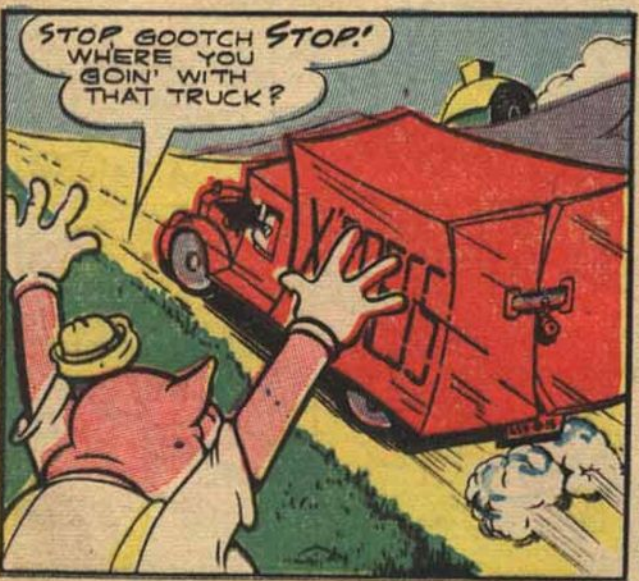
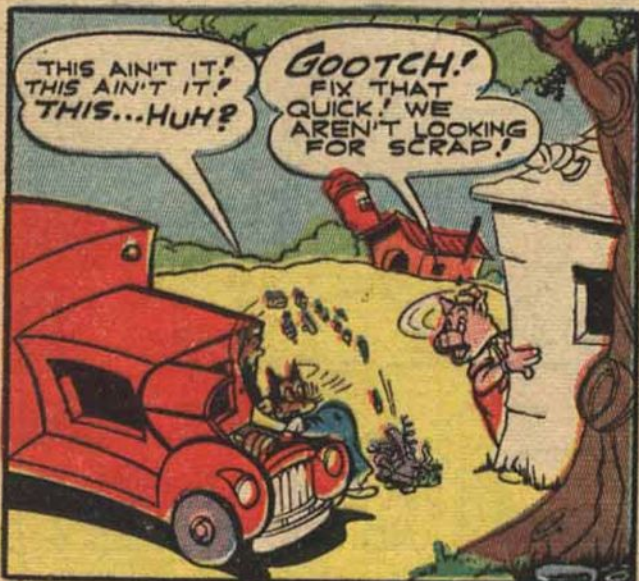


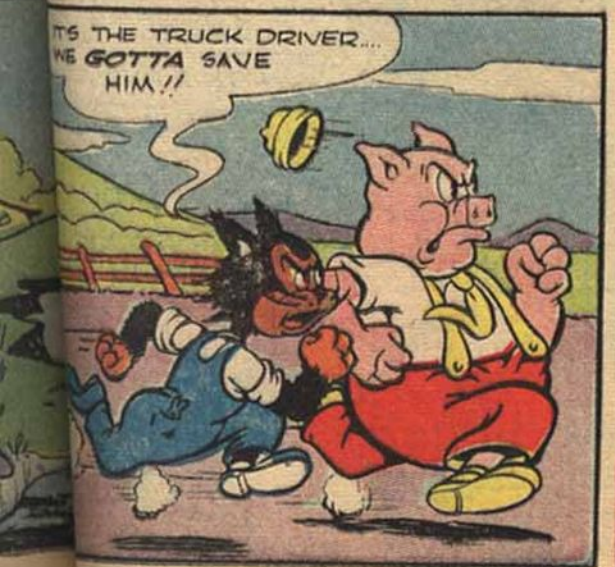
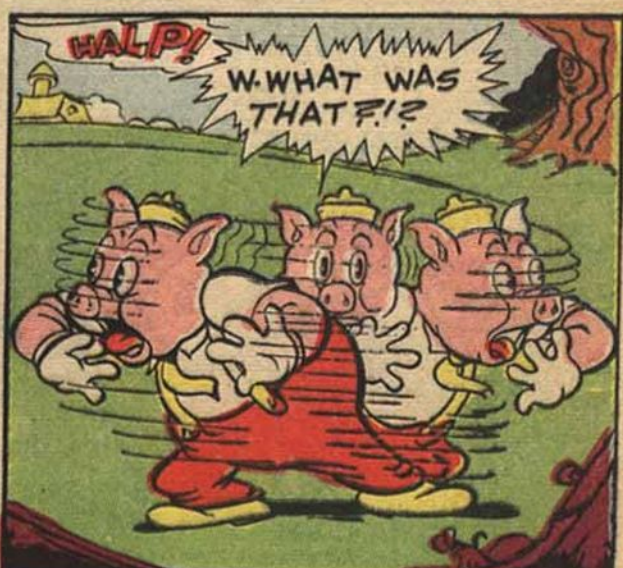
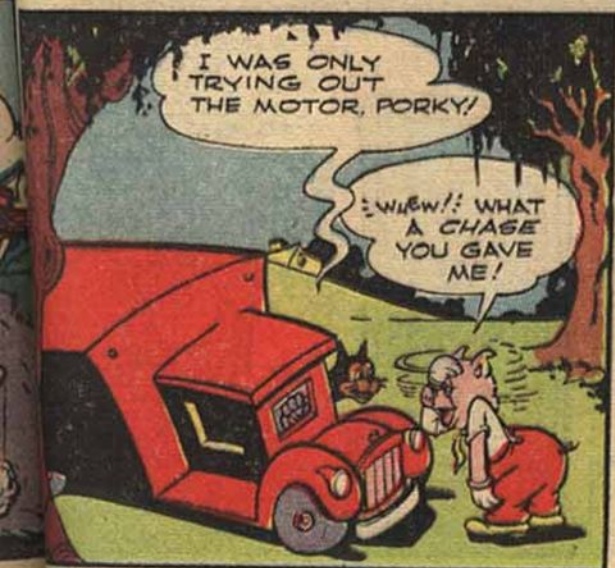
SURE CAN!
GOOEY IS AN
EXPERT!

CAN YOU GUYS
FIX MY
MOTOR?

XPRESS

SQUEE







YOU GO IN AND TACKLE 'EM!
I'BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU..
WAY BEHIND!!

BUT WE HAVEN'T
EVEN GOT
A GUN!



LEMME THINK!
WHAT'LL WE DO?

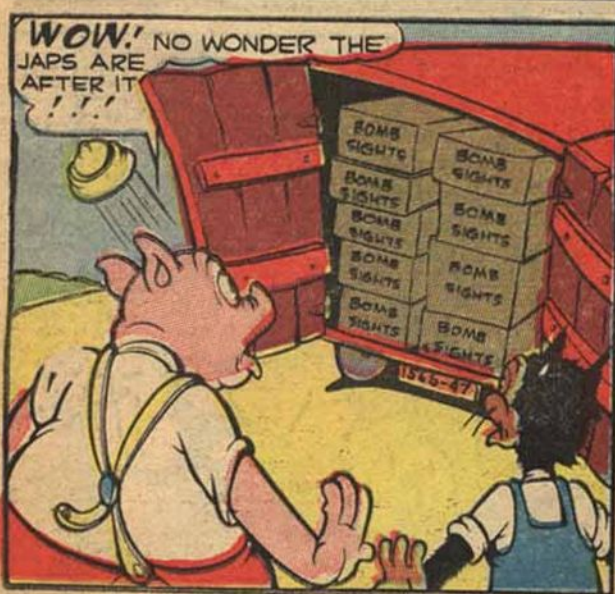


OH BOY! I HAVE IT!
FIRST WE.. THEN WE..

MILITARY
CENSORED!
SECRET..

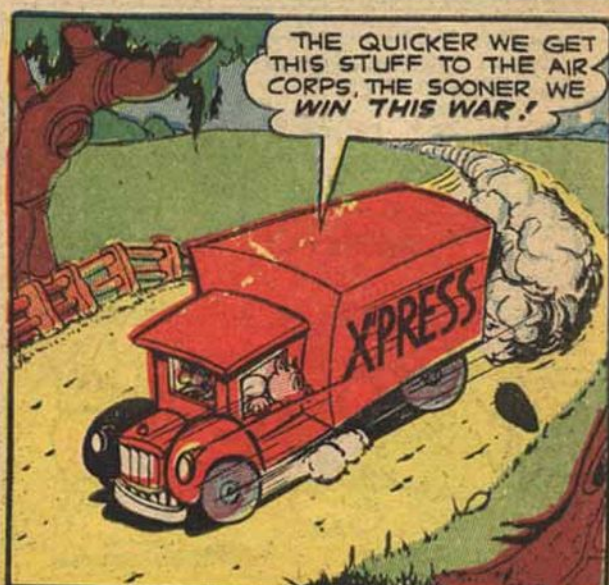


MAKE IT SNAPPY,
AND GET THAT KEY
OUT OF HIS CHLOTES
BEFORE THE JAPS
COME!!

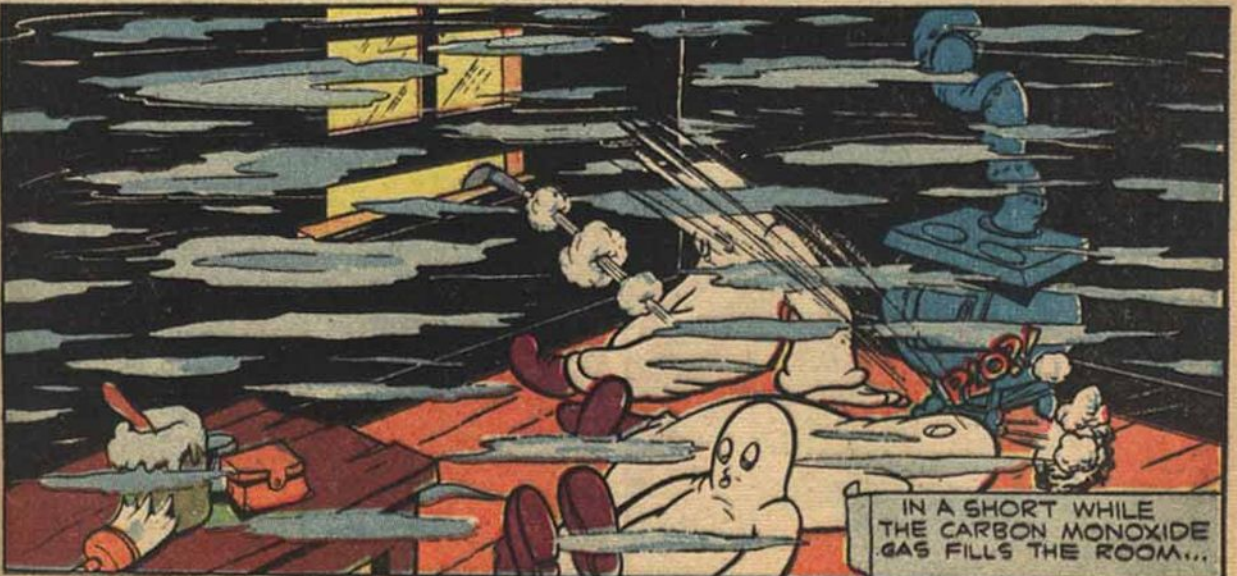


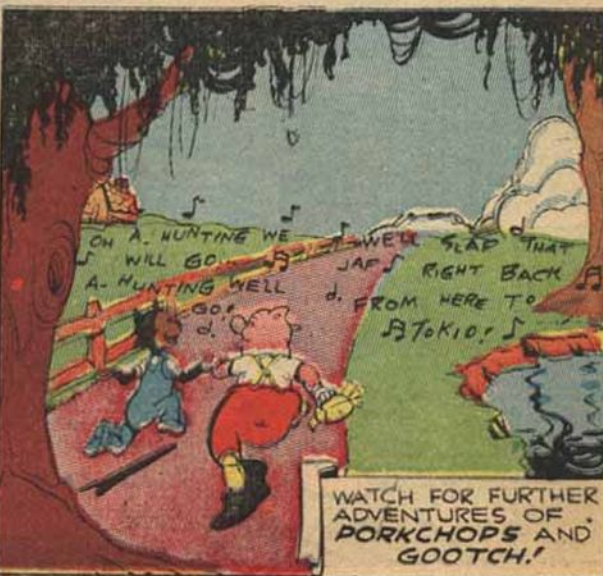
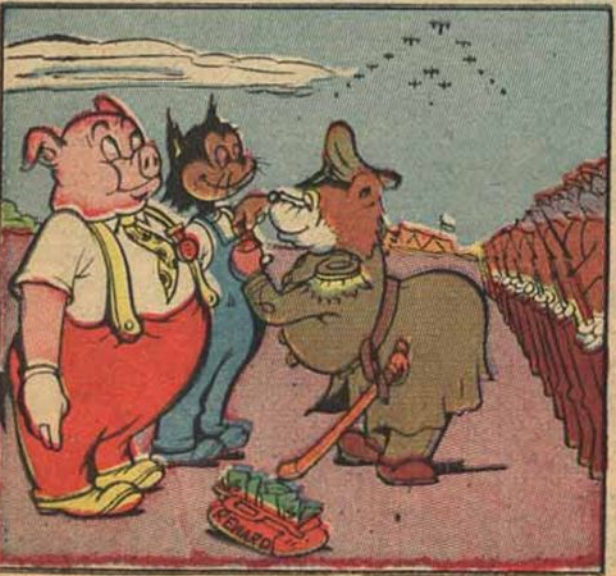
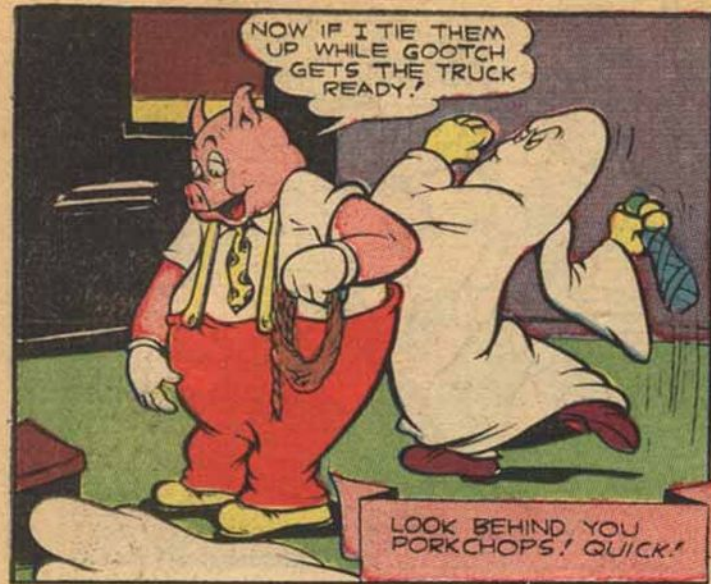
WOW! NO WONDER THE
JAPS ARE AFTER IT
!!!

BOMB SIGHTS
BOMB SIGHTS
BOMB SIGHTS
BOMB SIGHTS
BOMB SIGHTS
BOMB SIGHTS
BOMB SIGHTS
BOMB SIGHTS
1945-47



THE QUICKER WE GET
THIS STUFF TO THE AIR
CORPS, THE SOONER WE
WIN THIS WAR!





MR. JUSTICE

in THE RADIUM CORPSE..

CAN THE DEAD DIE TWICE? CAN A MAN LIVE WITHOUT A SOUL? PROF. EDWARD STIMES WAS DETERMINED TO FIND THE ANSWER TO THIS RIDDLE.. AND IN THE PROCESS OF HIS UNHOLY RESEARCH PRESENTED MR. JUSTICE WITH THE MOST GROTESQUE AND MOST MENACING FOE OF HIS CAREER.. THE RADIUM CORPSE!!

ONE FATEFUL NIGHT IN THE LABORATORY OF PROF. EDWARD STIMES..

PERFECT!
ONE MORE TEST TO DETERMINE WHETHER MY EXPERIMENT IS A SUCCESS!!



AND AT THAT MOMENT IN THE DEATH-CELL OF A NEARBY PRISON...



AND AMONGST THE SPECTATORS...

ER.. I THINK I'LL GO OUT FOR A MOMENT, MAYOR CLARK!

DON'T BE SO SQUEAMISH, MR. JUSTICE AFTER ALL YOU WERE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR CAPTURING O'HARA!



THIS IS YOUR SWAN SONG, O'HARA! YOU KILLED TOO MANY PEOPLE FOR ME TO FEEL SORRY FOR YOU!

...GO UNTO YOUR ETERNAL REST, MICHAEL O'HARA!.. AND MAY GOD HAVE MERCY ON YOUR SOUL!



TWO INCIDENTS, SEEMINGLY UNRELATED, AND YET INTERWOVEN BY STRANGE LINES.. DESTINED TO LOOSE A HORROR ON THE WORLD! ONCE AGAIN, WE GO BACK TO THE GLOOMY ABODE OF PROF. STIMES...



NOW FOR THE FINAL REACTION!



I'VE DONE IT! I'VE DONE IT! THE WORK OF A LIFETIME, AND SUCCESS AT LAST!



.. BUT I MUST HAVE A HUMAN GUINEA PIG, BEFORE I CAN BE ABSOLUTELY SURE! BUT WHO P.P. WHO P.P.

FLASH!!
IN JUST TEN MINUTES, NOW FOLKS THE VICIOUS KILLER, MIKE O'HARA IS DUE TO BE EXECUTED...
BLA, BLA...

I'VE GOT MY GUINEA PIG! MIKE O'HARA IS DOOMED TO DIE, ANYWAY, SO HE HAS NOTHING TO LOSE, BUT I'VE GOT TO WORK FAST! I'VE LESS THAN TEN MINUTES LEFT! I'LL CALL MY FRIEND, JUDGE SACHS, AT ONCE!!

HELLO?... JUDGE SACHS, PLEASE! THIS IS PROF. STIMES! HURRY, PLEASE!

OH, HELLO, PROF. I'M SORRY FATHER ISN'T IN JUST NOW!

LINDA! YOU MUST HELP ME AT ONCE! YOU KNOW THAT BLUE-PRINT OF THE INSIDE OF THE STATE PRISON YOUR FATHER HAS! PLEASE BRING IT TO ME AT ONCE! IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH!

HERE, PROF. STIMES, IS THE BLUEPRINT! I HURRIED DOWN AS FAST AS I COULD!!

AND NONE TOO SOON! THANK YOU VERY MUCH, LINDA! I'LL RETURN IT IN THE MORNING!!

YOU SEEM STRANGELY AGITATED! IS ANYTHING WRONG, PROF.??

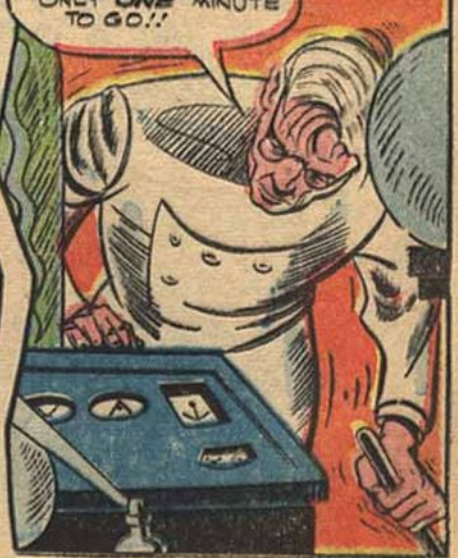
ER.. NO, MY DEAR, HA, HA... AND NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME!!

WELL! I LIKE THAT! SLAMMING THE DOOR IN MY FACE! HMMM... NASTY, RUDE CREATURE!! AND AFTER I ALMOST BROKE MY NECK TO GET HIM HIS OLD BLUEPRINT!!

BANG

NOW.. LET'S SEE.. MUST LOCATE THE EXACT WHEREABOUTS OF THE EXECUTION CHAMBER!.. AH!... HERE IT IS!!

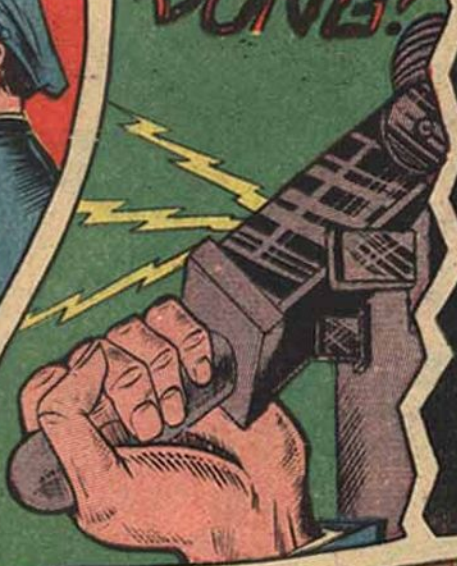
NOW, I'LL SET MY CONTROLS, SO THAT MY RAY WILL STRIKE EXACTLY THERE! ONLY ONE MINUTE TO GO!!



...ONE MINUTE TO GO BEFORE I GIVE HER THE JUICE!

BONG!

BUT QUEERLY ENOUGH, INSTEAD OF CRACKLING ELECTRICITY, THE CHAMBER IS SUFFUSED WITH A WEIRD UNEARTHLY BLUE LIGHT...



GOOD LORD! THAT BLUE LIGHT IS ALMOST BLINDING!!

PERHAPS IT'S A SHORT CIRCUIT! I HOPE THE EXECUTION ISN'T DELAYED BECAUSE OF THIS!!

HMM... NO HEART BEAT! NO PULSE! SEEMS DEAD ENOUGH, ALL RIGHT!!



AND YET, THERE IS AN ODD VIBRATION IN THE CORPSE!! NEVER CAME ACROSS THAT KIND OF SYMPTOM BEFORE!

PERHAPS YOU PUT TOO MANY VOLTS THRU HIS BODY!

NODE, DOC, I REGULATED THE JUICE SAME AS EVER! OH, WELL, AS LONG AS HE'S DEAD!

BUT THE SPIRIT WORLD SEEMS TO BEAT VIOLENTLY AGAINST THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF MR. JUSTICE... A WARNING THAT SOMETHING IS AMISS...





LATER.. THAT SAME EVENING...
MAYBE I'M BEING FOOLISH.. BUT I'M GOING TO CHECK ON MIKE O'HARA AND SEE IF HE'S REALLY DEAD?...

MORGUE



HMM.. IT'S AGAINST REGULATIONS TO ALLOW VISITORS, THIS TIME OF NIGHT.. BUT BEIN' IT'S YOU MR. JUSTICE!!

THANKS, PADDY! I'LL ONLY BE A MINUTE!



AT THAT MOMENT..

QUICK, MAN! THE BODY OF MIKE O'HARA, WHERE IS IT??

SEE HERE, YOU CAN'T COME BUSTIN IN THIS WAY, AN'..



WAIT A MINUTE, PADDY, I RECOGNIZE THIS MAN! HE'S PROF STIMES! THE FAMOUS SCIENTIST! WHY NOT LET BOTH OF US LOOK AT THE SAME TIME!!

WELL, OKAY! THE STIFF'S RIGHT BEHIND YOU!!



DEAD!! BLAST IT! THE SKIN'S SHREDED RIGHT OFF HIM... I MUST HAVE FAILED AFTER ALL!!



PARDON MY CURIOSITY, PROFESSOR? DO YOU MIND MY ASKING JUST WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO WITH THIS CORPSE??

EVERYTHING! I KILLED HIM!!

WHAT? BUT I SAW HIM ELECTRO-CUTED WITH MY OWN EYES!

I KILLED HIM, I TELL YOU! I KILLED HIM WITH A RADIUM RAY, I PROJECTED INTO THE DEATH CHAMBER, JUST BEFORE THE ELECTRIC CURRENT WAS TURNED ON!!

I'VE BEEN EXPERIMENTING WITH RADIUM AS A MEANS OF MAKING PEOPLE IMMUNE TO DEATH!



IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE GREATEST SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY OF MANKIND!

BUT I'VE FAILED! FAILED!

MOTHER OF HEAVEN! THE... THE CORPSE!



HELP!

HEL...
ARRG
G
H



SWIFTLY THE CREATURE TURNS UPON THE PETRIFIED PROF. STIMES, IT'S UNWITTING CREATOR...

BUT BEFORE IT CAN ATTACK, A THICK IMPENETRABLE MIST FORMS ABOUT THE PROF., AND THE BEAST-CORPSE SHIES AWAY IN DREAD...



YOU'RE SAFE NOW, PROF. STIMES!

THEN TURNS AND FLEES AS THOUGH IN DREAD, IT'S HORRIBLE FIGURE ILLUMINATED BY A WEIRD BLUE GLOW...

WHO.. WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU COME FROM? YOU LOOK LIKE A GHOST, YOURSELF!

PERHAPS I AM, PROF.! POOR FELLOW, HE'S DEAD! BURNED TO A CRISP!!



YOU HAVE TAMPERED WITH THINGS. NO HUMAN SHOULD.. AND CREATED A SOULLESS MONSTER.. KILLER!! RETURN TO YOUR LABORATORY, QUICKLY, AND DESTROY YOUR FIENDISH INVENTION!

Y.. YES! YOU'RE RIGHT! I'LL DO IT AT ONCE!

MEANWHILE, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR ME TO DO! GO TO THE KEEPER OF LOST SOULS!

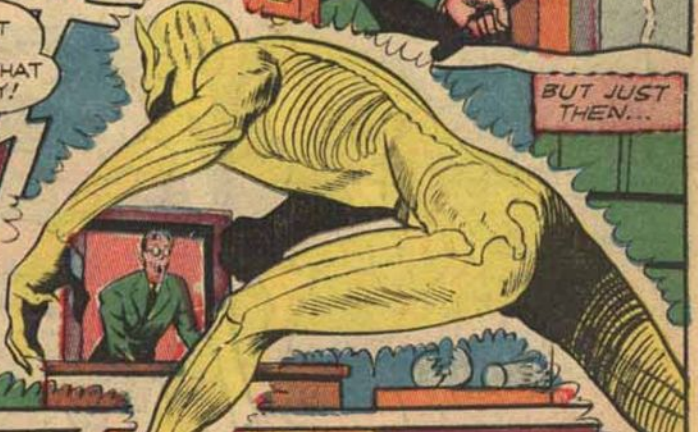
FRENZIEDLY PROF STIMES SPEEDS BACK TO HIS LABORATORY... INTENT ON DESTROYING THE UNHOLY MONSTER OF HIS MAKING..

WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO TAMPER WITH THE UNKNOWN... BUT PERHAPS IT'S NOT TOO LATE YET!

THERE.. THAT SHOULD PUT AN END TO THAT MONSTROSITY!

BUT JUST THEN...

YOU.. YOU CAN'T BE ALIVE YET! I.. I JUST DESTROYED YOU!!..



AT LAST MR. JUSTICE REACHES HIS DESTINATION... THE PLANET OF LIMBO... THE DOMAIN OF THE KEEPER OF LOST SOULS.

DISCIPLE OF SATAN! I CAME HERE FOR THE SOUL OF MICHAEL O'HARA!

YOU.. MY MASTER'S GREATEST FOE.. DARE TO ENTER MY DOMAIN!

IMPS OF HADES! SEIZE MR. JUSTICE!



HMM... LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO DO THIS THE HARD WAY!!

ALL RIGHT! COME AND GET IT!



I KNOW THE SOUL OF MIKE O'HARA HAS LEFT HIS BODY!

AND I MEAN TO GET IT.. ONE WAY OR THE OTHER!!



I'VE GOT THE KEEPER'S SCEPTER!.. AND I KNOW THE MAGIC INCANTATION! NOW TO GET BACK TO EARTH!

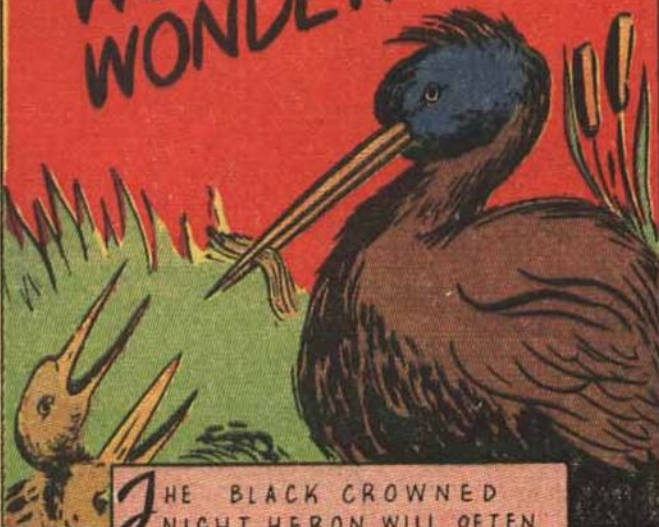
MEANWHILE IN THE LABORATORY OF PROF. STIMES...

NO! NO... STAY AWAY!..





WORLD WONDERS



THE BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERON WILL OFTEN TRAVEL AS FAR AS **160** MILES A DAY... JUST TO BRING FOOD TO HER YOUNG!

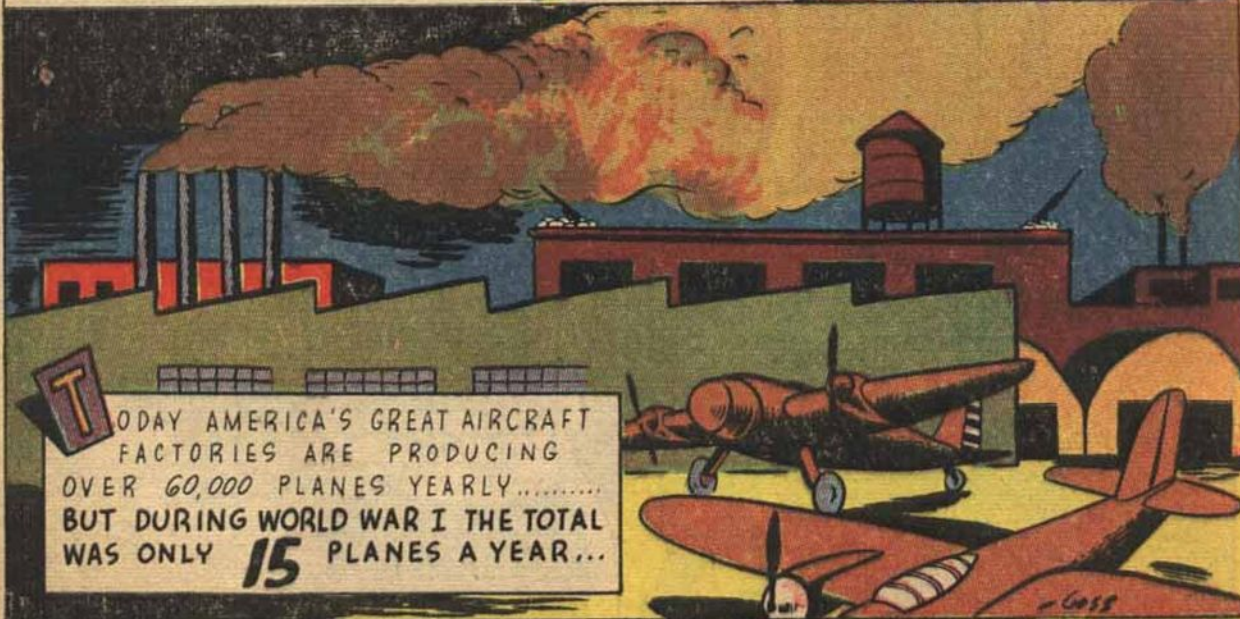


IT TAKES AS LONG AS **10** YEARS FROM THE TIME IT IS CUT TO GET A TEAKWOOD LOG TO A SAWMILL!



16 MILLION

TONS OF SNOW AND RAIN FALL SOMEWHERE ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE DURING EVERY SECOND OF THE DAY AND NIGHT...



TODAY AMERICA'S GREAT AIRCRAFT FACTORIES ARE PRODUCING OVER **60,000** PLANES YEARLY..... BUT DURING WORLD WAR I THE TOTAL WAS ONLY **15** PLANES A YEAR...

MURDER TRAP

by Alf Corsican

SPRING was in the air, and Kip Burland was very restless. The city annoyed him, and today of all days he was more annoyed than ever. That letter from Jake Brody in his pocket didn't help matters either. What was it Jake had written? Quickly Kip reached into his trousers:

"My dear Kip,

Why don't you leave your stuffy job and come up here, and spend the weekend. The fishing's great, and until a week ago I used to go out every morning with Father for a mess of trout! Funny thing happened—a week ago, he disappeared, and no one knows where he went, I'm a bit disturbed, since he had a lot of money with him at the time.

Besides Father made the mistake of quarreling with Mike Grainger, his business partner, and you know what a short temper Mike has! Mike left town about the same time Father did, and seemingly deserted his lobster business.

Come on up, Kip—I'd be glad to have you here.

As ever sincerely yours,

Jake Brody."

That decided it. Kip hurried to his hotel, packed his bag, and within half an hour

was sitting in the club car of the Maine Special.

The next morning, as the pine trees along the Maine coast came into view, Kip smiled from his seat in the dining-car. This was it! The vacation he'd been longing for.

As he dug his spoon into his grapefruit Kip noticed the man opposite him. There was something vaguely familiar about this swarthy shifty-eyed man. Where had Kip seen him before? And why was this stranger's hand shaking so violently? Suddenly the man rose unsteadily to his feet, turned and staggered down the aisle between the tables towards the door, and disappeared.

In twenty minutes the train pulled to a halt, and sure enough there was Jake Brody waiting for him. But two local policemen were with him! Jake looked very upset.

"Kip! I was hoping you'd catch this train! Officers O'Connell and Burke have come down with me. Gentlemen, this is an old friend of mine, Kip Burland."

Kip acknowledged the introduction, and asked what was up.

"I went fishing this morning," Jake began, with a strange look in his eye,

"... out on the end of the pier, and an old lobster crate floated my way, Kip. I pulled it ashore, and opened it up. Inside was the body of Father . . . it was horrible!"

Officer O'Connell cleared his throat. "When we examined Mr. Brody's body we found it pretty badly decomposed by water, and bloated almost beyond recognition!"

"What?" Kip suddenly exclaimed . . . "It was bloated?"

At that moment, Jake Brody cried out: "There he is!" Kip turned, and who should be descending from the train but his breakfast-table companion, a suitcase in his hand.

"There's Mike Grainger, officers . . . arrest him!"

And suddenly, before anyone could see . . . a dark clad figure had run up to Mr. Grainger, grabbed him by the sleeve, and pulled him into a nearby taxicab!

Jake Brody gasped: "The Hood, the Black Hood! That's who it was! After them boys!"

Inside the first taxicab, the Black Hood ordered the driver to step on it!

"W-where are you taking me?" queried Grainger.

"Never mind," was the abrupt answer. "I have a little investigating of my own to do, before I turn you over

MENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGE-
MENT, PUBLICATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY
THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF OCTOBER
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Signature of Publisher
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1947. (REG-1)

to the authorities. Driver, the police station."

"I d-don't know what you're talking a b o u t," answered Grainger, perspiring. . . . "I--- I've been out of town. Been to the city to see my doctor . . . heart condition, you see!"

"Did you let anyone know when you were going and coming back?" asked the Black Hood.

"Why---er . . . everyone in town knew!" was the answer.

With a grinding shriek the taxicab pulled to a halt in front of the police station.

Moments later, the Black Hood was examining the body of Jake Brody's father. He turned away, and went into an adjoining room. As he was looking intently at the lobster crate that had held the victim, the door burst open and Jake Brody and Officers O'Connell and Burke entered.

"Listen Hood, you've got some nerve, kidnapping a murderer from right under our noses!" shouted Officer Burke angrily.

"A man's innocent till proved guilty," remarked the Black hood. "Besides, he's in the next room. I brought him here!"

"This is a clear case," prompted Officer O'Connell. "Obviously Mike Grainger killed Brody's father for the money he had with him, and stuffed him into a lobster crate. One thing he didn't realize was that the crate might float

back to shore, bringing the evidence with it. Ironically enough, it was the son of the murdered man who uncovered the crime!"

Slowly the Black Hood turned to the gathered group. "There's only one fault to your reasoning, Officer O'Connell, and that is you've picked the wrong murderer!" Accusingly, the Black Hood pointed towards Jake Brody. "There is your killer!" he said.

With a muttered curse, Jake threw himself against the Hood, pummeling savagely. As the avenger of the just backed away, Jake picked up a blackjack from a nearby desk and hurled it. It missed the Black Hood by inches. Wasting no further time, he hurled his massive muscular body against the wiry fisherman. In a moment it was over and Jake Brody was being led into a cell.

Later Officers O'Connell and Burke, Mike Grainger and the Black Hood sat round a stove in Grainger's house, as lobsters boiled in a pot.

"He confessed just an hour ago," remarked Officer Burke . . . "that he killed his father in cold blood. Seems his father threatened to disinherit him, and had withdrawn all his available money from the bank to give it to Mike Grainger, his business partner!"

"But Hood, how did you see through that air-tight alibi of Jake's?"

"It was air-tight except for *one thing* Jake forgot," began the Black Hood, a grim smile playing about his lips. "His father's body was decomposed in water, and yet he said he found the crate *floating!* Since enough water entered the lobster crate to bloat the body, it couldn't possibly have been floating . . . *it must have sunk!*"

"Obviously, what happened was that Jake knew Mike Grainger would leave town at a certain date for an examination by his doctor. He stole one of Mike's lobster crates, killed his father, stuffed it into the crate and weighted it down off the pier. Then the day he knew Grainger was to return, he pulled up the crate and feigned finding it! It was unfortunate for Jake that he happened to ask a friend of mine, Kip Burland, up here . . . or I should never have been here. Also, Burland told me, he met Grainger aboard the train . . . and it was quite obvious to him that he did suffer from a heart condition!"

Mike Grainger crossed to the stove, and lifted the top from the pail of simmering lobsters. Officer Burke looked up and said: "By the way what ever became of Kip Burland? We sort of lost track of him at the station."

The Black Hood leaned back in his chair, and stared musingly at the ceiling. "I wonder . . ." he echoed, a taut smile hovering about his lips.

CLANCY and LOONEY by HUBBELL

FROM A SMALL DRUG STORE NEAR THE ARMY CAMP, SERGEANT CLANCY (OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE) PHONES SERGEANT "LOONEY" LUNAR, (OF THE U.S. ARMY).

H'YA, LOONEY OL' SOCK! I FINALLY GOT HERE! WHERE'LL I MEET YOU? AT THE USO CLUB, HUH? IN ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES?



YEAH! SAY, BE A PAL AND PICK UP MY UNIFORM FOR ME AT THE TAILOR'S FOR ME WILL YA? I HAD TA HAVE SOME ALTERATIONS MADE!



WHAT? ANOTHER PACKAGE? NOW WAIT A MINUTE.... DON'T WORRY, I'LL PAY YOU BACK, PAL! SO LONG!



HEY YOU! YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! I FEEL LIKE A TRUCK HORSE ALREADY! AW NUTS!!



MUMBLE--MUMBLE--GIMME SERGEANT LUNAR'S UNIFORM!



HERE YOU ARE! THAT'LL BE 25¢.

IFG! OOPS! THERE THEY GO AGAIN!



YAAAAAA! SCAB LABOR!

TEAMSTERS AND MOVERS STRIKE!



CLANCY HUSTLES BACK TO THE TAILOR SHOP! FIX THESE PANTS QUICK, WILL YA, POP? I GOTTA MEET A GUY!



REPAIRING REASONABLE RATES

SORRY, BUT I HAVE TO FINISH THIS JOB! YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT!

I CAN'T WAIT AROUND FOR THAT SLOWPOKE! LOONEY'S OUTFIT JUST FITS..... ALMOST!



I'LL JUST MAKE IT, AS IT IS!



PUFF! PUFF!...
SERGEANT CLANCY TO SEE SERGEANT LUNAR.
HMM! HERE'S A MESSAGE - "SERGEANT LUNAR CAN'T SEE YOU HE'S BUSY AT CAMP."
WHAT!



HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? I BREAK MY NECK GETTIN' ALL THIS JUNK OUT HERE, AN' I GET STOOD UP?
GOING OUT TO THE CAMP, BUDDY! TOSS YOUR STUFF IN THE CAR AND LET'S GO.



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN UNIFORM, SERGEANT?
TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS, THE END OF APRIL!



MEANWHILE - BEHIND A BUSH ON ONE OF THE MAIN HIGHWAYS TO THE CAMP - WE FIND THE FOULEST SABOTEUR IN THE COUNTRY - SCHMERKÄS!
HAR! HERE COMES THE FOOD TRUCK NOW! AND NOBODY IN SIGHT BUT ME!
NO, NO!!



STOP! GET OUT OF THAT TRUCK AND INTO THE WOODS!
WHATSA IDEAR? I'VE GOT A LOAD OF MEAT FOR THE ARMY!
HURRY UP! GET THEM CLOTHES OFF. NOW GIVE 'EM HERE!



Y-YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! HEY! DON'T!... UGH!
BOP!



NOBODY CATCHES SCHMERKÄS! AN' FINISHED! SOON THERE WILL BE THE BIGGEST FUNERAL IN THE HISTORY OF THE ARMY!



CLANCY ARRIVES AT THE CAMP!
HMM! PECULIAR CHARACTER. TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS AND STILL A SERGEANT!
HOWDY, SON! WHERE CAN I FIND SERGEANT ALEC LUNAR?
IN THE KITCHEN, SERGEANT!



H'YA LOONEY! LOOK AT ALL THE PRESENTS STEEL AND DORA SENT YOU!
C-CLANCY! HOLY SMOKE! YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE!



HA HA HA HE HE HO HO



HUMPH!
FINE WELCOME
I GET? WHAT
DO YOU MEAN
I SHOULDN'T
BE HERE?

CIVILIANS AIN'T
ALLOWED, YOU
DOPE? AND BE-
SIDES, WHAT ARE
YOU DOING IN
MY UNIFORM?



IF ANYBODY SEES YOU, YOU'RE
ABLE TO GET SHOT- OOH!
HERE COMES SOMEONE NOW!
UNDER THE TABLE, QUICK!

GEE, I JUST
HAPPENED TO
THINK, I LEFT MY
UNIFORM AT THE
TAILOR'S! HOW'LL
I GET OUTA HERE?



THE MEAT'S HERE!
WHERE DO YOU
WANT ME TO
PUT IT?

ER.. AH.. OH!
THE MEAT, AH!
JUST PUT IT
OVER THERE!



SAY? WHERE'S
JOE, THE
REGULAR
DRIVER?

HE COULDN'T
COME? HE'S
ALL TIED
UP?



WHEW!
WHAT'LL
I DO NOW,
LOONEY?

IF I WERE YOU, I'D GET
OUTA HERE! THE MAJORS
GONNA INSPECT THE
KITCHEN TO-DAY!



GEE, WHAT
A MESS!
I'M HUNGRY
TOO!

WE'LL MAKE
YOURSELF A HAM
SANDWICH! I CAN
LEAVE AFTER I
PUT THIS MEAT
AWAY!



OH! IT'S ALL
THAT MEAT
AN' NO
POTATOES

HARRUMPH!
HARRUMPH!



DON'T STAND
ON CEREMONY
CHUM! PULL UP
A CHAIR AND
HAVE A BITE!

BRPHH!
WHY YOU...
Y-YOU



WHO?
ME?
WHAT'D I
DO?

GUARDS!
I WANT THIS
MAN ARRESTED!

G-GOSH! IT'S THE MAJOR!

SO? NOT A SOLDIER, EH? LOCK THE SPY UP MEN!

LEMME GO, YOU GUYS. YOU CAN'T ARREST ME! I AIN'T A SOLDIER!

LOOK OUT!! HE'S GETTING AWAY! HE'S HEADING FOR THE WOODS! SHOOT TO KILL!

GULP!! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!

BANG! BANG!

POOR CLANCY! I CAN'T LET HIM GET SHOT DOWN!

GIMME THAT GUN!! I'LL GET THE RAT!

LOOK AT SERGEANT LUNAR! SUCH COURAGE! I DIDN'T KNOW HE HAD IT IN HIM!

COME BACK! YOU CUR!

CLANCY CRASHES THROUGH THE FOREST, COMING OUT ON THE ROAD

THERE'S A TRUCK! MAYBE HE'LL GIVE ME A RIDE!

S-SAY, MISTER, ARE YOU G-GOIN' TOWARDS TOWN... ULP!

A SOLDIER, EH? WHATSA IDEA BUSTIN' OUTA THEM BUSHES LIKE THAT?

YOU G-GOT ME ALL WRONG, MISTER, I AIN'T A SOLDIER. IN FACT, TH-THE WHOLE ARMY IS AFTER ME FOR BEIN' A SPY!

IS THAT SO?

HMM, MAYBE I CAN USE THIS GUY!

OKAY, PAL! YOU STICK WITH ME AND I'LL SEE YOU THROUGH! GIMME A HAND WITH THIS JALLOPPY AN' YOU AN' ME'LL MAKE TRACKS!

SO YOU'RE DUCKIN' THE SOLDIER BOYS? DAT'S QUITE A COINCIDENCE! THEY WANT ME TOO! HAND ME DAT WRENCH!

HERE IT IS... WHAT DO THEY WANT YOU FOR?

ME! I JUST DELIVERED A TRUCKLOAD OF POISONED MEAT TO THE ARMY CAMP. BY TOMORROW THE JOINT'LL BE AS FULL OF CORPSES AS A CEMETARY!



ULP!

HA HA HA HA HO

GOSH! THE ARMY'LL SHOOT ME ON SIGHT AND THIS GUY'LL KILL ME IN A MINUTE IF I TRY TO GET AWAY. I'LL HAVE TO STRING ALONG WITH HIM AND WATCH FOR MY CHANCE!



YOO-HOO! MEANWHILE CLANCY. THAT DUMB FLATFOOT... HEY! WHO'S THERE?

J-JOE! WHATCHA DOIN' HERE? THE GUY WITH YOUR MEAT TRUCK, SAID YOU WERE TIED UP. I THOUGHT.....



YEAH! HE TOLD ME HE WAS GONNA POISON THE MEAT! THEN HE SWIPED MY DUDS AN' KNOCKED ME OUT! OH, MY HEAD!

MEAT! POISON! WOW! YOU MEAN HE POISONED THE--



HOLY HAT! I GOTTA GET BACK TO CAMP. THEY MAY BE DISHING IT UP NOW!



MEANWHILE, SCHMERKÄS AND CLANCY HAVE REPAIRED THE TRUCK AND ARE ROARING ALONG THE HIGHWAY.....



HAF! A SOLDIER! I DON'T LIKE SOLDIERS! WATCH ME RUN HIM DOWN!



GULP! DON'T YOU THINK YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH FUN FOR ONE DAY?

OMIGOSH!! IT'S LOONEY! H-HE'LL BE SQUASHED, SURE AS SHOOTIN'!





HE! HE! HE!
LOOK AT 'EM RUN!
BUT WE'LL CATCH
UP, AN' WHEN
WE DO.....!

WHAT'S THE
MATTER WITH THAT
GUY? IS HE NUTS?

NAW! THAT'S
THE GUY WITH
MY TRUCK!



NO! NO! YOU
CRACKPOT! YOU
CANT KILL MY
PAL!

HEY?! LAY OFF
THE WHEELYA CRAZY
DOPE. I WANT US
TO GET HOIT?



CRASH!



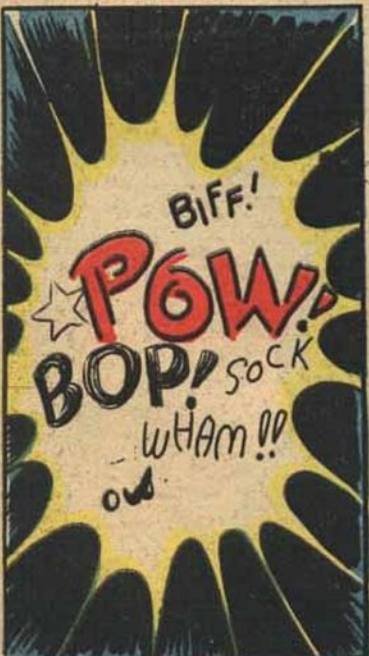
CLANCY!
ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?

YEAH! LET
ME OUT OF
HERE! THIS
GUY'S A POISONIN'
FOOL!



LEMME AT 'IM!
THE DIRTY CROOK!
HE LIED! HE
SAID HE WAS-
N'T A SOLDIER!

ME AND YOU
GOT SOME
BUSINESS
TO SETTLE
FIRST! SWIPE
MY TRUCK,
WILL YUH?



BIFF!
POW!
BOP! SOCK
WHAM!!
OW



NICE GOIN' JOE!
WHEN WE GET BACK
TO CAMP WE'LL SEE
THAT YOU GET SOME
CREDIT TOO!



LATER--

PORK CHOPS!
UM YUM
GLOB!!

NICE OF THE
MAJOR TO
FIX US UP
WITH THIS
CHOW!... SAY
I HOPE THIS
AIN'T POISONED!

UNLESS CLANCY AND
LOONEY POISON THEM-
SELVES BEFORE THE NEXT
ISSUE, YOU HAVE A DATE
WITH THEM NEXT MONTH!

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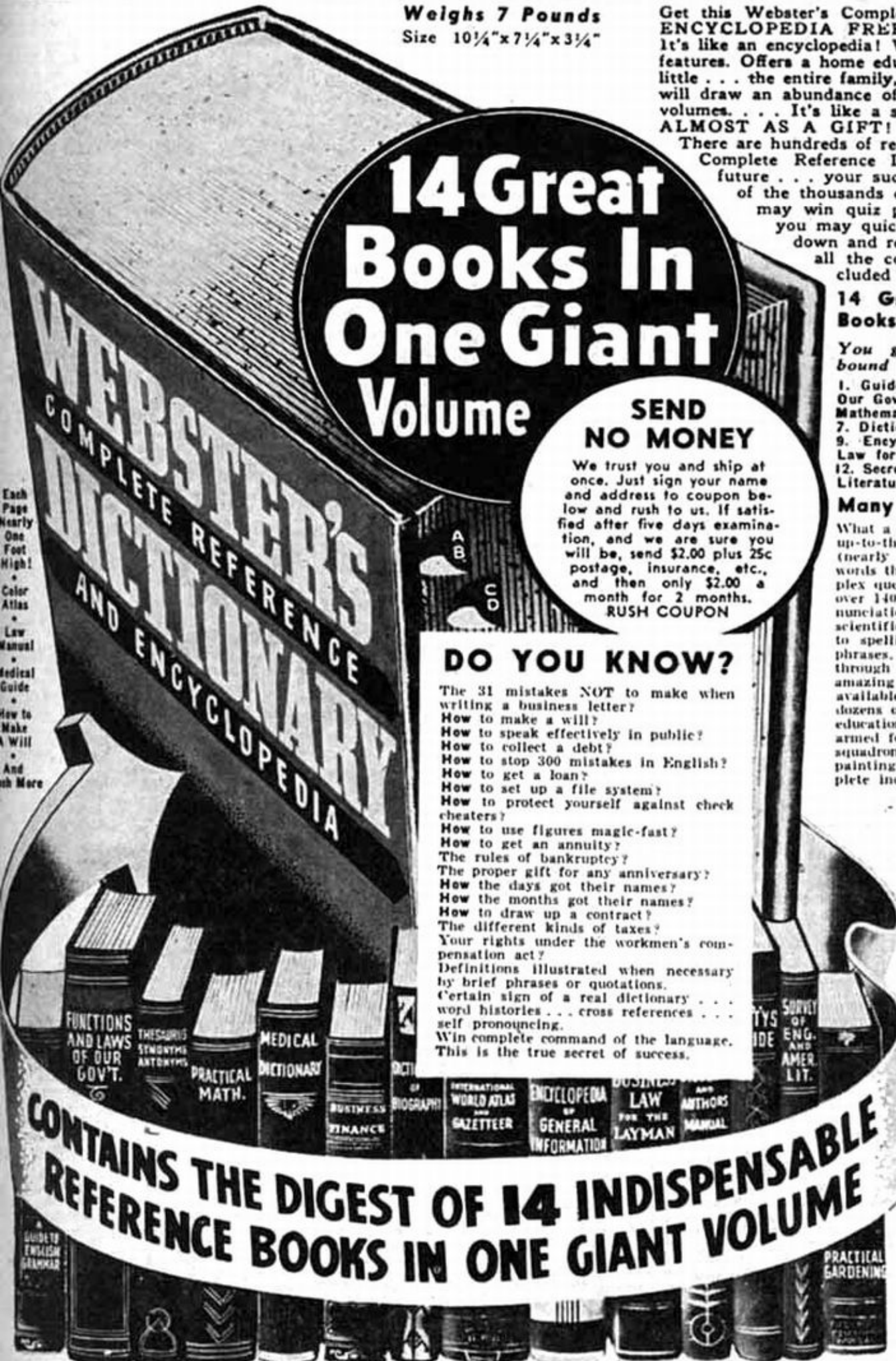
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